styrene-ethylene-butylene-styrene, styrene-ethylene-propylene-styrene, styrene-butadiene-styrene and combinations thereof.

Please delete page 2 and substitute therefore substitute page 2 attached hereto at Tab 2.

Please delete page 3 and substitute therefore substitute page 3 attached hereto at Tab 3.

Substitute the paragraph at page 5, lines 15-28 with the following paragraph.

Suitable block copolymers include linear and radial copolymer structures having the formula (A-B)x or A-B-A, where block A is a polyvinylarene block, block B is a poly(monoalkenyl) block, and x is an integer of at least one. Suitable block A polyvinylarenes include, e.g., polystyrene, polyalpha-methylstyrene, polyvinyltoluene and combinations thereof. Suitable B blocks include, e.g., conjugated diene elastomers including, e.g., polybutadiene and polyisoprene, hydrogenated elastomers, ethylene/butylene (hydrogenated butadiene) and ethylene/propylene (hydrogenated isoprene), and combinations and mixtures thereof. Useful commercially available block copolymers are available under the Kraton D and Kraton G series of trade designations from Shell Chemical Company (Houston, TX) including, e.g., Kraton G-1651, the Europrene Sol T series of trade designations from EniChem Elastomers (Houston, TX), the Vector series of trade designations from Exxon (Dexco) (Houston, TX), Soprene series of trade designations from Enichem Elastomers and Stereon series of trade designations from Firestone Tire & Rubber Co. (Akron, Ohio).

Substitute the paragraphs at page 6, lines 13-28 with the following paragraphs.

Metallocene polyolefins are homogeneous linear and substantially linear ethylene polymers prepared using single-site or metallocene catalysts. Substantially linear ethylene polymers are commercially available from Dow Chemical Company and include polyolefin plastomers available under the AFFINITY trade designation, homogeneous linear ethylene polymers are available from Exxon Chemical Company under the trade

designation EXACT. Homogeneous linear and substantially linear ethylene polymers having a relatively low density, ranging from about 0.855 to about 0.885, and a relatively low melt index, for example less than about 50 g/10 min.

The term "interpolymer" is used herein to indicate a copolymer, terpolymer, or higher order polymer having at least one other comonomer polymerized with ethylene. Interpolymers of ethylene are those polymers having at least one comonomer selected from the group consisting of vinyl esters of a saturated carboxylic acid wherein the acid moiety has up to 4 carbon atoms, unsaturated mono-or dicarboxylic acids of 3 to 5 carbon atoms, a salt of the unsaturated acid, esters of the unsaturated acid derived from an alcohol having 1 to 8 carbon atoms, and mixtures thereof. The melt index of the interpolymers of ethylene may range from about 50 g/10 min to about 2000 g/10 min, from about 100 g/10 min to 1500 g/10 min, from about 200 g/10 min to 1200 g/10 min, and from about 400 g/10 min to 1200 g/10 min.

Substitute the paragraph at page 7, line 3-11 with the following paragraph.

Other thermoplastic polymers include polybutylene, polylactide, e.g., caprolactone polymers, and poly (hydroxy-butyrate/hydroxyvalerate), certain polyvinyl alcohols, biodegradable copolyesters such as Eastman Copolyester 14766 (Eastman Chemical), linear saturated polyesters, examples of which are available under the trade designations DYNAPOL and DYNACOLL from Huls, poly(ethylene oxide) polyether amide and polyester ether block copolymers, examples of which are available under the trade designations PEBAX from Atochem and RITE-FLEX from Hoechst Celanese, and polyamide polymers, examples of which are available under the trade designations UNIREZ (Union Camp), VESTAMELT (Huls) and GRILTEX (EMS-Chemie).

Substitute the paragraph at page 7, line 27- page 8, line 6 with the following paragraph.

Useful commercially available superabsorbent particles include, e.g., sodium polyacrylate superabsorbent particles available under the AQUA KEEP series of trade designations including, e.g., particles having a median particle size of from about 20 μm to about 30 μm available under the trade designation AQUA KEEP 10SH-NF, particles

having an average particle size of from 200 μm to 300 μm available under the trade designation AQUA KEEP 10SH-P, particles having an average particle size of from 320 μm to 370 μm available under the trade designation AQUA KEEP SA60S, particles having an average particle size of from 350μm to 390 μm available under the trade designations AQUA KEEP SA60SX, SA55SX II and SA 60SL II, and particles having an average particle size of from 250 μm to 350 μm available under the trade designation AQUA KEEP SA60N TYPE II from Sumitomo Seika Chemicals Col, Ltd. (Japan).

Substitute the paragraph at page 8, lines 11-16 with the following paragraph.

Useful plasticizing oils include, e.g., hydrocarbon oils low in aromatic content, mineral oil (e.g., Purity 35 mineral oil from PetroCanada Lubricants (Calgary, Canada)). Preferred plasticizing oils are paraffinic or naphthenic. One example of a suitable commercially available plasticizing oil is available under the trade designation Calsol 555 from Calumet Refining Co. (Chicago, Illinois). One example of a suitable commercially available solid recrystallizing plasticizer is available under the trade designation Benzoflex 352 form Velsico (Rosemont, Illinois).

Substitute the paragraph at page 9, lines 3-12 with the following paragraph.

Examples of suitable tackifying agents include wood rosin, tall oil rosin, tall oil derivatives, gum rosin, rosin ester resins, natural terpenes, synthetic terpenes, and petroleum based tackifying agents including, e.g., aliphatic, aromatic and mixed aliphatic-aromatic petroleum based tackifying resins. Useful hydrocarbon resins include, e.g., alpha-methyl styrene resins, branched and unbranched C_5 resins, C_9 resins and C_{10} resins, styrenic and hydrogenated modifications thereof, and combinations thereof. One example of a useful commercially available tackifying resin is Zonatac 105 styrenated terpene resin from Arizona Chemicals Inc. (Panama City, Florida). Examples of useful commercially available tackified thermoplastic adhesives include HL-1620-A, HL-2238 and HL-1500 thermoplastic adhesives available form H.B. Fuller company (Vadnais Heights, Minnesota).